8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM2

496 The Ahwar Farmers' Association was started with the nomination by the Regent of a chairman and managing committee of 12, assisted by a secretary. The committee functioned during 1952 as a kind of Agricultural Board to deal with local irrigation arrangements, cotton growing and marketing, and development work. It provided a useful link between the Department of Agriculture and the farming community.

FISHERIES

226 The same type of fishing is carried out in the Protectorates as in the Colony with more emphasis on beach seines. The most extensive fishery is the coast from Mukalla eastwards to beyond Qishn. In the winter months sardine of the Sardinella and Dussumreria types are found together with *Scomberomerus spp.* and tunny. The Western Protectorate coast in winter generally supports an intensive fishery for anchovy (*Stolephorus indicus*) by beach seines. In addition a small shrimp is also caught by this method. The fisheries are localised but seasonal fishermen tend to follow the shoals along the coast.

Encircling gill nets, bottom nets and lift nets are little used in the Protectorate as local opinion is strongly opposed to methods of increasing yields for fear that the fish will become extinct.

439 Fishing is financed in the same way as in Colony by merchants.
226 Fish, surplus to normal requirements, is salted and dried for export to
255 India, Africa and Ceylon but there is considerable local consumption
254 inland. Dried sardines are used for camel fodder, tobacco fertiliser and human consumption. One fish factory for canning tunny and sardines, which was established in Mukalla in 1950 and which used an Italian trawler for supplies, has had to close down owing to lack of capital. Fish meal was also produced at this factory. No cold storage or ice-making plants exist.

435 Marketing arrangements are the same as in the Colony : fish prices
226 are about 50 per cent lower for the consumer in the Protectorate.

The sardine fishery which had failed for three years showed signs of revival in the early winter of 1951 along the Eastern Protectorate coast. Shoals of larger fish were also abundant and the upward trend has again been noticed in the winter of 1952.

654 The Fisheries Department is described on page 27. It has surveyed
226 little of the Protectorate waters except by Danish seine netting. The results have been exceptionally poor owing to the rough nature of the bottom. Plans for extensive and intensive work in the Protectorates have been delayed because of schemes in the Colony. A certain amount of work has been done in Western Protectorate waters from Perim to beyond Shuqra but only one area showed signs of promise with Danish seine nets : half a ton of *Lethrinus spp.* was the best single individual haul. The fishermen from Aden Colony range into the Western Protectorate and on three nights at the end of the Shamal of 1952, with assistance from the Fisheries Department vessel, secured 14½ tons of *Scomberomerus spp.* from the west of Aden. These co-operative efforts will be resumed in the Shamal of 1953.